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McCONE'S TESTIMONY IN ITT-CHILE SENATE INQUIRY

HOWARD K. SMITH: A Senate subcommittee probed deeper today into efforts by the International Telephone and Telegraph Company to prevent the election of Chile's Marxist president Salvador Allende.

ABC's Frank Tomlinson reports.

FRANK TOMLINSON: John McCone, former head of the CIA, now a director of IT&T, told the Senate subcommittee that IT&T never made a money offer to the CIA to keep Salvador Allende out of office. But McCone did recount a plan by IT&T president Harold Geneen to keep Allende from becoming president.

The plan called for a million dollars to subsidize a coalition against Allende in the Chilean congress, which had to name Allende president even though he won the popular election. McCone took that plan to the White House and discussed it with Henry Kissinger.

JOHN McCONE: Mr. Kissinger thanked me very much and said that I would hear from him. I didn't hear from him again. And therefore I assumed that no such plan was -- was adopted as a matter of national policy, and that was the end of it as far as I was concerned.

SENATOR FRANK CHURCH: You approved of Geneen's proposal to offer up to a million dollars of company funds to help finance a plan of this character if the government formulated it?

McCONE: That's correct.

TOMLINSON: After first endorsing the coalition plan, John McCone had a change of heart.

McCONE: ...discussed this with -- with Mr. Geneen and told him -- and in telling him I think I was just concurring